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Title: Issue regarding giving special status for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

HON. SPEAKER: Now the House may take up 'Zero Hour'. Shri Ram Mohan Naidu may speak now.

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak in the Zero Hour.

Madam, you have been a good witness for myself and my colleague TDP MPs who have been constantly fighting for the rights of Andhra Pradesh after the division. Our request has been that they have to grant special status for the State of Andhra Pradesh but the Union Finance Minister, after much consultation, on the night of 7th September, had announced a special package for the State of Andhra Pradesh. ...(*Interruptions*)

Madam, it has been two-and-a-half months since the date of announcement but there has been no further advancement as regards special package. ...(*Interruptions*) Whenever we ask the Central Government about it, they are saying that they are with us in letter and spirit. Today, there might be the spirit, but the letter is missing. What we request from the State of Andhra Pradesh is that there has to be legal sanctity for whatever they are saying....(*Interruptions*) In previous cases also, we have been hurt in the past. It should not happen in the future. So, the commitments which the Central Government is making to the State of Andhra Pradesh have to be put on paper and passed in the Parliament. Even after five years or ten years, it has to be applicable to the State. We do not want to be constantly fighting for our rights. They have to take it into consideration. Two-and-a-half years have passed since then but there has been no clarity; there is confusion still in the State of Andhra Pradesh. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER:

Shrimati Kothapalli Geetha and

Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu.